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Jürgen Pleiss graduated in physics at the University of Tübingen and obtained his PhD degree in 1990 at the Max-Planck-Institute of Biology, Tübingen, under the supervision of PD Dr. Fritz Jähnig. He then joined the company Biostructure S.A., Strasbourg, to develop software for protein modelling. Since 1995, he is head of the bioinformatics group at the Institute of Biochemistry and Technical Biochemistry, University of Stuttgart, where he obtained his habilitation in 2001. His research activities focus on protein modelling and design by combining bioinformatics and simulation methods, and the application of computational biology in red and white biotechnology. He has published more than 160 scientific papers within these research fields.